



# Informational Notes for EMDs and Local Officials

Bulletin #10 – May 3, 2002

## Citizen Corps Initiative

SEMA Statewide Volunteer Coordinator, Dante Gliniecki, will be Missouri's point of contact for the Citizen Corps initiative, which falls under FEMA responsibilities. The Citizen Corps' mission allows citizens to volunteer their talents specifically for homeland security. There are five federal programs promoted at the national level to be implemented locally as part of Citizen Corps.

**Expanded Neighborhood Watch Program** incorporates terrorism prevention and education into the existing crime prevention program.

**Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)** trains individuals in emergency preparedness and basic response techniques to provide critical support to first responders during emergencies.

**Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS)** provide volunteer support for law enforcement by tapping volunteers to perform administrative and non-intervention activities. VIPS frees officers to be out in the community.

**Medical Reserve Corps** focuses on currently practicing or retired medical professionals to augment the emergency medical response community during large-scale emergencies (i.e. tornadoes, earthquakes or terrorism).

**Operation TIPS** the Terrorism Information Prevention System will tap millions of workers whom by nature of their jobs are well positioned to recognize unusual events. These volunteers will be provided with a toll free number to report suspicious activity to the nearest FBI office.

We are still waiting to see federal program guidelines for Citizen Corps and the volunteer programs. We are also waiting to see if federal funds may be available to initially help communities set up their local programs.

## Attention EMDs Schedule Awareness Training through your LEPCs

Just a reminder to schedule Awareness and Operations Training through your county LEPC. By scheduling through the LEPC, the training books for the courses are provided by the MERC at no charge and LEPC funds can be used to pay the instructor fees.

Any questions regarding this should be directed to Bob Dopp, MERC Executive Director at 800-780-1014 or 573-526-9237 or [bdopp01@mail.state.mo.us](mailto:bdopp01@mail.state.mo.us).

## Internet Radar Images & Summer Campaign

*By James Kramper, NWS St. Charles, MO*

Many Emergency Management Directors use the NWS Internet site for current radar images. During a fast moving storm, the site is slow in updating images. The individual regions in the NWS have committed some of their own funds to get this system improved. The awareness campaign for Missouri Summer Heat and Lightning Awareness Week will be June 3 – 7. The campaign will focus on Heat and Lightning safety information.

## **Holden Seeks Federal Disaster Declaration for 19 Missouri Counties Hit by Tornadoes and Severe Storms**

Gov. Bob Holden asked President Bush to declare 19 Missouri counties federal disaster areas because of recent tornadoes and severe storms that caused millions of dollars in damage, left hundreds of people with damaged or destroyed homes, knocked out power to more than 6,000 southeast Missouri residents, and killed a 12-year-old Marble Hill boy.

Holden asked that 19 counties be declared eligible for Individual Assistance. An Individual Assistance Disaster Declaration could make low-interest U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) loans available to individual citizens and businesses that suffered losses from the storm. Core counties listed in the Individual Assistance declaration request are: Bollinger, Butler, Carter, Howell and Madison. Citizens living in the following contiguous counties are also included in the Individual Assistance disaster request: Cape Girardeau, Douglas, Dunklin, Iron, Oregon, Ozark, Perry, Reynolds, Ripley, Shannon, St. Francois, Stoddard, Texas, and Wayne.

Holden asked the president to declare five counties eligible for Public Assistance. A Public Assistance Disaster Declaration will help public entities deal with the massive debris removal costs and make repairs to damaged public property. Rural electric cooperatives and other publicly owned utilities could also be eligible to recover costs associated with storm-related damages. Counties requested in the Public Assistance declaration are: Bollinger, Butler, Carter, Howell and Madison.

## **SEMA Training Opportunities**

State Training Office Jim Charrier reminds EMDs, Law Enforcement, First Responders and Elected Officials about the following three training opportunities.

**ICS Intermediate** will be offered May 14-16 in Dexter. The deadline to register is May 10.

**Donations Management** will be offered May 15-16 in Kansas City. Register by May 10.

These courses are free. You may register on-line, fax in your application to 573-634-7966 or call Susan Rhodes in training at 573-526-9121.

## **Missouri Receives \$2.8 Million DOJ Terrorism Grant Earmarked For Domestic Preparedness & Security**

Attorney General John Ashcroft announced Missouri would receive a total of \$2.876 million in grants to bolster domestic preparedness and security. "The grants are an important part of our fight against terrorism, and representative of the federal, state and local cooperation necessary to win that fight," Ashcroft said.

Missouri will receive awards through the Office for Domestic Preparedness' State Domestic Preparedness Equipment Program. The funds will be used to purchase specialized equipment for emergency response agencies, including law enforcement personnel, fire and emergency medical services and hazardous materials response units, who would be the first responders to terrorist acts.

This program is used to purchase a wide array of equipment including personal protective equipment; chemical, biological or radiological detection equipment; chemical, biological or radiological decontamination equipment, and communications equipment.

**The grant money will be spent in the following communities: St. Charles County, Jefferson County, St. Louis City, Sikeston/Cape Girardeau County, Kirksville/Adair County, Jefferson City/Cole County, Kansas City, St. Louis County, Sedalia/Pettis County, Jackson County, Northwest Missouri Hazmat Response Unit (Andrew, Buchanan and Clinton Counties), Joplin and Camdenton/Camden County.**

To qualify for funding, Missouri conducted a comprehensive assessment of risk, capabilities and needs related to a potential terrorist attack, and developed a multi-year Statewide Domestic Preparedness Strategy that guides their spending of these funds. The impact of the grant will result in approximately 87% of the planned distribution covering 90 % of the state's population.